

## NOTES

**The Beach Plum in Michigan.** — In September 1932 we received for identification from Mr. James E. Armstrong of Chicago, fragmentary material of a plum that he had found growing on gravelly ridges in Lake County, west-central Michigan. From the somewhat withered leaves and the fruit this appeared to be a form of the variable beach plum (*Prunus maritima* Wang.), which has been previously known only from a limited area along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Virginia, where it grows, usually as a straggling shrub, along beaches and on sand dunes not far from the sea.

In subsequent correspondence with Mr. Armstrong he stated that the Michigan plum formed thick clumps of shrubs about six feet tall, and that it was apparently local and not very abundant in the vicinity of Walhalla, in the Lake region.

On my trip to the west this year, in company with Mr. E. D. King, I visited the region, and following the careful directions of Mr. Armstrong had no difficulty in locating the place and finding the plum, although not in the exact locality where he had found it.

Walhalla is a village in Lake County, about twenty or twenty-five miles east of Luddington, which is on Lake Michigan. The region is glaciated and includes a number of small lakes. Most of the sandy and gravelly uplands, where not cleared, are covered with a mixed growth of coniferous and deciduous forest.

Where we found the plums, a mile or two south of the village, they seemed to be locally abundant in openings of the sandy upland woods. The shrubs are usually scattered and are seldom more than four or five feet in height. They were in young fruit at the time of our visit, June 19th, but due apparently to a frost a short time before, most of the fruit was blighted, except in a few protected places where it was still abundant. I was told by a resident that the sand plums, as they seem to be called in that section, were common and that they were gathered for making jams and jellies.

A series of herbarium specimens was made and living plants were secured for propagation at the Arboretum. Study of this material and observation of the plants in the field leave no doubt as to their identity and confirms this interesting and remarkable extension of the known range of the beach plum. — ERNEST J. PALMER.